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2. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the fixed electrodes are arranged along the circumference of the counter wheel.

4. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the counter wheel has a body made of an electrically conductive material having recesses which are distributed over the circumference and contain electrically nonconductive inserts.

5. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the fixed electrodes are combined in pairs, in that all the measurement electrodes on the counter wheel are of the same length and in that each pair is of a common length which corresponds to the length of the measurement electrodes on the counter wheel.

6. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that each pair of electrodes comprises a transmitter electrode and a receiver electrode, with adjacent electrodes in two adjacent pairs being of the same type.

7. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that an opposing electrode is provided which extends along at least half the circumference of the counter wheel at a distance therefrom.